



PACKING TIPS, HOW TO MAXIMISE THE SPACE IN YOUR UNIT & OUR PACKING SUPPLIES GUIDE

PACKING TIPS

Lock & Leave wants to ensure you have the best self storage experience, and our staff will be delighted to offer advice on packing your items in readiness for storage.

Equally, and because we are the self storage experts, we have compiled a range of the best packaging supplies available that will ensure your items are professionally protected both during transit and whilst they are stored.

Getting started

- Prepare to wrap

Just as you wrap all those presents for Christmas or special occasions, ensure you have all the packaging materials you need to hand. Each Lock & Leave branch sells everything you need from fragile tape, boxes, bubble wrap, and sofa and mattress covers through to marker pens.

- The two Ls – List and Label.

You may be in a hurry to get your items into secure storage but bear in mind when you need to access an item or when you want to vacate. Wouldn't that be a lot easier if you had a full inventory and all boxes were labelled up?

- Boxing match

Ensure you use the right box for the right items. The larger boxes are designed for use with lighter items such as bedclothes and the smaller double walled boxes are for heavier items such as books and files.

- Flipside

Ensure your boxes have the heavy items at the bottom and mark which way up the boxes should be.

- And lift!

Think of your back when lifting these boxes - so do not overfill them. Follow the correct lifting procedures to avoid back strain.

- Fragile or not?

Ensure you tape those boxes containing delicate items with fragile tape so you (and others) remember to handle them with care!

- Creased up?

Avoid creasing clothes by using our cleverly designed wardrobe box. They come with an internal hanger and are tall and upright so you have your very own portable wardrobe.

- Antiques?

Bubble wrap delicate items and use acid-free tissue paper to protect glassware and crockery.

Bedtime and mealtime?

Dismantle your bed frames and tables. Remember to keep those allen keys, nuts and bolts with the items: this is best done by securing them in plastic bags and taping them to the dismantled item.

- Polish up

The polished surfaces of furniture should be protected with dust sheets or covers.

- White goods

Kitchen appliances must be thoroughly drained before transit and storage.

- Garden equipment

Protect people from those sharp edges by wrapping in foam or packing paper. Ensure your garden tools are well-cleaned and lightly oiled prior to storage. Ensure all petrol and oil tanks are drained completely.

What cannot be stored at Lock & Leave?

- Live plants or animals.
- Paint.
- Petrol, oil or diesel.
- Flammable materials
- Aerosols
- Ammunition & guns
- Any illegal substances

HOW TO MAXIMISE THE SPACE IN YOUR UNIT

Arrive at your chosen Lock & Leave branch and park up in our covered loading bays. Choose from our (free) selection of trolleys and pallet trucks and start to unload.

Ensure your largest items are placed at the back of the unit.

Ensure sofas, mattresses, bed frames and tables are stored on their ends to minimise the floor area required.

Items can be placed on top of white goods but watch the weight, or points of pressure which might dent them.

Mirrors, pictures and paintings should be bubble wrapped and placed between mattresses or soft furnishings.

If storing a wardrobe or a chest of drawers, why not fill it with items once in your unit?

Stack your heavier boxes first with the lighter and more fragile ones on top.

If you require, Lock & Leave can order and build you bays of shelving. Details are available from reception.

Allow a gap so you can enter the unit and easily reach items you may need whilst in storage.

OUR PACKING SUPPLIES GUIDE

Remember our staff are on hand to advise which packaging materials are best suited for each item you wish to store.

Here is a general guide on what we sell and their uses.

Protect

Bubble wrap is sold in 5 metre rolls – a good all-rounder and very useful for delicate items, mirrors, antiques and crockery.

Foam sheets – useful for placing between plates and for wrapping glasses.

Sofa and mattress covers – helpful to keep sofas and mattresses clean.

Stretch wrap – useful for binding boxes together to go onto pallets.

Acid-free tissue paper – useful for glassware and delicate linen items.

Foam corner protectors – ideal for protecting the corners of mirrors, sharp edged tools and paintings.

Box it up

Large boxes – ideal for lightweight items.

Archive boxes – double walled and can take some serious weight. Ideal for books.

Small, medium boxes – practical for a wide range of storage items.

Wardrobe box – does exactly what its name suggests!

Essential sundries

Tape – ensure those boxes are taped up securely with buffer tape or our fragile tape rolls.

Marker pens – ensure your boxers are properly labelled.

Padlocks – once your unit is full, you will need to secure it. A wide range of padlocks are available in reception.

We really do want to make your experience with us as stress-free as possible, so each new customer gets a moving-in pack containing a pen, a key ring, a mug and even a wet wipe. This means that, even if you've packed everything you own, you can still label your boxes, hang your padlock key somewhere

safe, clean up and then treat yourself to a well-deserved cuppa after all your hard work!

Please don't hesitate to ask us any questions you have, so we can make sure you have the best self storage experience. Telephone Battersea on 020 7498 3366 or Molesey on 020 8941 6060.